

Message Text

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54

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-11 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02

OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 PRS-01

PA-01 STR-04 /079 W

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R 170754Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3114

INFO AMEMBASS OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

USMISSION USDEL MNT GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EFIN, EINV, RP, CA

SUBJECT: CANADIAN TRADE MISSION VISITS PHILIPPINES

REF: (A) MANILA 3586 (NOTAL) (B) MANILA 3632

1. A LARGE CANDIAN TRADE MISSION, HEADED BY MINISTER OF TRADE DONALD JAMIESON AND CONSISTING OF ABOUT 12 SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, 35 INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES, AND 5 JOURNALISTS, VISITED MANILA FROM MARCH 10 TO MARCH 12.

2. THE LOCAL PRESS EMPHASIZED TWO ASPECTS OF THE VISIT: PRESENTATION TO THE MISSION OF POSSIBLE AREAS FOR CANDIAN INVESTMENT, AND AN UNDERTAKING BY CANADA TO REVIEW ITS GSP LIST. CANADIAN EMBASSY OFFICER ARTHUR PERRON DOWNPLAYED THE IMPORTANCE OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS: IN THE CASE OF GSP, HE NOTED THAT THE LIST OF ITEMS PRESENTED BY THE PHILIPPINE SIDE WAS CERTAINLY NO SURPRISE AND LARGELY CONSISTED OF

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ITEMS IN WHICH A NUMBER OF OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE AN

INTEREST (E.G., COCONUT AND WOOD PRODUCTS, SUGAR, FOOD PRODUCTS). THE CANDIANS COMMITTEE THEMSELVES ONLY TO A STUDY OF THE LIST. WITH RESPECT TO THE POTENTIAL INVESTMENT AREAS, PERRON CONSIDERED THE INITIAL PRESENTATION BY THE GOP TO BE TOO GENERAL TO BE OF MUCH USE TO THE MISSION.

3. PERRON NEVERTHELESS CONSIDERED THE MISSION TO BE VERY SUCCESSFUL FROM THE STANDPOINT OF RANGE OF EXPOSURE OF THE VISITORS AND IDENTIFICATION OF TRADE AND INVESTMENT AREAS OF SPECIFIC INTEREST TO THE INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS. PERRON THOUGHT THAT A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF INTEREST WAS GENERATED AMONG THE CANDIANS, AND HE LOOKS FOR EXPANDING CANDIAN INVOLVEMENT IN THE PHILIPPINES, WHICH STARTS FROM AN ALMOST NON-EXISTANT BASE JUST FIVE YEARS AGO. THE SUCCESS OF THE VISIT WAS ALSO ENHANCED BY THE SIGNATURE OF A CANADIAN/ PHILIPPINE TAX TREATY ON MARCH 11 (REF B), AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE CANADIAN INTENTION TO ALMOST DOUBLE ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT FUND FROM U.S. \$42.2 MILLION TO U.S. \$80 MILLION (REF A). SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

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